



## REGIONAL FUGITIVE TASK FORCES

### *CATCH OF THE WEEK*

Week of September 04, 2006

#### *Taking the Worst of the Worst Off the Streets*

##### **Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force (GLRFTF)**

On September 05, 2006 Ramon Diaz was arrested in Chicago, IL by members of GLRFTF. Authorities in Sioux City, IA wanted Diaz for Robbery, Aggravated Battery with a Firearm, and Murder for his alleged role in a home invasion-robbery occurring in that city. During this incident Diaz and an accomplice broke into a home and attacked the home's two occupants. Diaz allegedly held down one victim while his accomplice shot and killed the second individual. Diaz and his accomplice later shot the first victim in the head, but that person survived. Before fleeing the scene, Diaz and his accomplice allegedly stole five pounds of marijuana concealed inside the home. Authorities later located one of the victim's vehicles in Chicago, and requested assistance from GLRFTF in locating and apprehending Diaz. Investigators developed information on Diaz's location in a Chicago neighborhood, responded to that area, and established surveillance. GLRFTF and Chicago PD units later observed Diaz, moved in, and after making entry into the target residence, safely took him into custody. Diaz currently awaits extradition to Iowa.



**Ramon Diaz**  
**Wanted for:**  
**Murder, Robbery & Aggravated Battery**

##### **Gulf Coast Regional Fugitive Task Force (GCRFTF)**

On September 09, 2006 Dedrick Griham was arrested in Birmingham, AL by members of GCRFTF. The Alabama Department of Corrections (ADOC) wanted Griham for Escape after he broke out of a correctional facility in Montgomery, AL. Federal authorities also sought Griham for Carjacking and weapons violations. At the time of his escape, Griham had been serving the remainder of a twenty year sentence for Robbery. Griham originally received a parole for this conviction, but violated that parole after he raped and kidnapped a thirty-four year old female. In that case, GCRFTF rescued the victim and arrested Griham. Following Griham's escape, ADOC contacted GCRFTF for assistance in locating and apprehending him. GCRFTF, with critical assistance from the Technical Operations Group (TOG), developed information indicating that Griham fled to Birmingham with a girlfriend. GCRFTF narrowed Griham's location to a one block area of Birmingham, responded to that site, and after establishing a perimeter, initiated a detailed search. Investigators later found Griham hiding in a closet and safely took him into custody.



**Dedrick Griham**  
**Wanted for:**  
**Escape**

##### **Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force (SERFTF)**

On September 08, 2006 Michael Evans was arrested in Cartersville, GA by members of SERFTF and deputies from the Bartow County (GA) Sheriff's Department. The Jefferson County (AL) Sheriff's Office wanted Evans for Rape, Failure to Appear on charges of Theft, and for Probation Violation. Investigators from the Gulf Coast Regional Fugitive Task Force (GCRFTF) developed information indicating that Evans fled to northern Georgia, and forwarded a collateral lead to SERFTF. Acting on this information, SERFTF learned that Evans took refuge at his grandmother's Cartersville residence, but that he had not been seen there for some time. SERFTF also developed information concerning a female associate of Evans, and established surveillance at her location. During this surveillance investigators observed Evans enter a vehicle driven by the woman, surrounded that car, and safely took Evans into custody. Evans has three previous arrests for Robbery and narcotics violations.



**Michael Evans**  
**Wanted for:**  
**Rape**

**Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force (PSWRFTF)**

On September 07, 2006 Wade Murchant was arrested in Anaheim, CA by members of PSWRFTF, officers from Los Angeles, CA PD (LAPD) and Anaheim PD, and deputies from the Orange County (CA) Sheriff's Department. LAPD wanted Murchant for three counts of Attempted Homicide for allegedly firing at several individuals after an argument at a Woodland Hills, CA nightclub. During this incident Murchant allegedly pointed a handgun at another man's head after observing that man speaking with one of Murchant's female associates. The victim attempted to wrest the weapon away from Murchant, but Murchant maintained possession of the firearm and allegedly shot the victim several times. As the victim's associates attempted to drag the man away and flee the area by car, Murchant allegedly pursued them and fired additional rounds at the vehicle. LAPD requested assistance from PSWRFTF in locating and apprehending Murchant. PSWRFTF, with critical assistance from the Technical Operations Group, developed information that Murchant fled to an Anaheim motel. Investigators established surveillance at the motel, observed Murchant exit a room, and safely took him into custody. A visual search of the room Murchant exited resulted in the seizure of a loaded 9mm handgun.



**Wade Murchant**  
**Wanted for:**  
**Attempted Homicide**

**New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force (NY/NJ RFTF)**

On September 08, 2006 Ralph 'Bucky' Phillips, a USMS **15 Most Wanted** fugitive, was arrested in Warren County (PA) by a massive team of law enforcement personnel; including members of NY/NJ RFTF, the New York State Police (NYSP), the USMS Western District of New York, and various other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. Authorities wanted Phillips for Attempted Murder, Attempted Aggravated Murder, Escape, and Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution (UFAP). These charges relate to a series of events beginning when Phillips escaped from an Erie County (NY) correctional facility in April 2006. While on the run, Phillips allegedly shot and wounded a NYSP trooper on June 10, 2006, and then on August 31, 2006 allegedly shot two other NYSP troopers, one of whom died. Phillips received assistance from various individuals while on the run, and also stole vehicles, supplies, and firearms to support himself. On September 08, 2006 a Pennsylvania State Police unit attempted to stop a stolen vehicle driven by Phillips, but he failed to stop and led authorities on a brief pursuit. Phillips later crashed and fled into a nearby wooded area. Law enforcement flooded the scene and established a perimeter to prevent Phillips' escape. As personnel began to search the area, two NY/NJ RFTF investigators spotted movement, summoned backup, and moved in on Phillips. As investigators continued to move in, Phillips revealed his location and peacefully surrendered. Phillips has an extensive criminal history of Burglary and Grand Theft Auto.

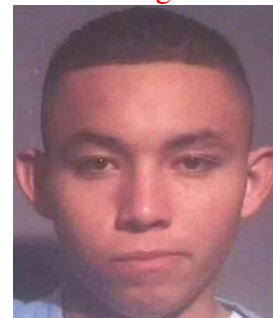


**Ralph 'Bucky' Phillips**  
**Wanted for:**  
**Escape, UFAP,**  
**& Attempted Murder**

**Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force (CARFTF)**

On September 08, 2006 Nelson Ventura, a documented member of the **MS-13** gang, was arrested in Woodbridge, VA by members of CARFTF. Authorities in Takoma Park, MD wanted Ventura for Murder for, along with three associates, allegedly beating a rival gang member to death with a baseball bat. Ventura and his associates left the scene by car, but a patrol officer stopped them a short time later. As the officer approached the vehicle, the Ventura and his associates fled on foot. Law enforcement successfully captured two individuals, but Ventura and one other managed to evade immediate apprehension. CARFTF investigators adopted Ventura's case and developed information on his location in Woodbridge. CARFTF responded to the target location, observed Ventura, and safely took him into custody. The final suspect remains at large.

**MS-13 Gang Member**



**Nelson Ventura**  
**Wanted for:**  
**Murder**